

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /067 W

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R 171416Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9774

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 5009

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KE, ET, SO

SUBJECT: KENYA SENTENCES SOMALI GUERRILLAS

1. ACCORDING PRESS ACCOUNTS, 33 GUERRILLAS OF SOMALI ETHNIC ORIGIN WERE CONVICTED MAY 14 OF ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WEAPONS AT TRIAL IN GARISSA, CAPITAL OF NORTH-EAST PROVINCE. OF THE 33, 19 WERE KENYAN NATIONALS AND WERE SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS IN JAIL; REMAINDER WERE 12 NATIONALS OF SOMALIA AND 2 OF ETHIOPIA; THEY WERE ORDERED DEPORTED FOLLOWING TOKEN JAIL SENTENCE OF 24 HOURS. GROUP WAS CAPTURED DURING PERIOD MARCH 31- APRIL 13 NEAR ETHIOPIAN BORDER NORTH OF MANDERA, APPARENTLY AS THEY FLED FROM UNSUCCESSFUL INCURSION INTO ETHIOPIA.

2. WEAPONS CAPTURED WITH GUERRILLAS WERE DISPLAYED AT COURT AND CONSTITUTED FORMIDABLE ARSENAL. INCLUDED WERE BREN GUNS, STEN GUNS, RIFLES, MORTARS, BAZOOKAS AND BAZOOKA BOMBS, DYNAMITE STICKS AND RIFLES.

3. MAGISTRATE IN PASSING SENTENCE TOOK NOTE OF
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PROSECUTION STATEMENT AHT GUERRILLAS BORE NO ILL

INTENTIONS TOWARD KENYA. NEVERTHELESS HE WARNED
AGAINST VIOLATIONS OF KENYA'S TERRITORY BY NEIGHBORS
HARBORING "EXPANSIONIST VISIONS."

4. COMMENT: RELATIVELY LENIENT TREATMENT OF NON-KENYANS
PROBABLY REFLECTS DECISION TO AVOID PROVOKING SOMALIA
AT A TIME WHEN TENSIONS ON UGANDA BORDER HAVE NOT YET
SUBSIDED FULLY. AT SAME TIME, HEAVY PUBLICITY APPEARS
MEANT TO REASSURE KENYAN PEOPLE THAT GOK IS CAPABLE
OF EFFECTIVE ACTION TO SECURE BORDERS, WITH SIMILAR
MESSAGE INTENDED FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

DECON 1/1/77.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

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